

09/785,577

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

In response to the specification objection, Applicant submits the following replacement paragraph for the ABSTRACT of the specification:

**ABSTRACT**

**~~REDUCTION OF DEVICE DISCOVERY DELAYS IN FREQUENCY HOPPING-BASED AD-HOC NETWORKS~~**

A method for reducing device discovery delays in frequency hopping based ad-hoc networks is disclosed. According to the method, an activity being performed is periodically interrupted to scan for inquiry messages from other devices for a pre-determined period time period.

Processing of a received inquiry message, in accordance with normal procedures applicable to the particular frequency hopping based ad-hoc network, occurs after expiry of a random time period. At the end of the predetermined time period, the original activity is returned to. A device for use in frequency hopping based ad-hoc networks that embodies the described method and a computer program product for such a device, are also disclosed.